

## **EXHIBIT 17**

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT JAMES DONDERO

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION**

|   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>In re:</b>                             | § | <b>Case No. 19-34054</b>          |
|   | § |                                   |
| <b>HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.</b>  | § | <b>Chapter 11</b>                 |
|   | § |                                   |
| <b>Debtor.</b>                            | § |                                   |
| <hr/>                                     |   |                                   |
| <b>HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,</b> | § |                                   |
|   | § |                                   |
| <b>Plaintiff.</b>                         | § |                                   |
| <b>v.</b>                                 | § | <b>Adversary No. 21-03003-sgj</b> |
|   | § |                                   |
| <b>JAMES D. DONDERO,</b>                  | § |                                   |
|   | § |                                   |
| <b>Defendant.</b>                         | § |                                   |

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**DEFENDANT JAMES DONDERO'S OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES  
TO HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.'S  
FIRST REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS**

TO: Highland Capital Management, L.P., by and through its attorneys of record, Zachery Z. Annable, Hayward PLLC, 10501 N. Central Expy., Ste. 106, Dallas, Texas 75231.

Defendant James Dondero ("Defendant" or "Dondero") serves his Objections and Responses to Debtor Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s ("Debtor" or "Highland") First Request for Admissions ("Requests"), as follows:

Dated: April 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Bryan C. Assink

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**ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT JAMES DONDERO**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that, on April 28, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via email on counsel for the Debtor.

/s/ Bryan C. Assink  
Bryan C. Assink

**OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES**

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1:** Admit that attached as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of a Promissory Note (a) executed by James Dondero, as maker, in favor of the Debtor, as payee, (b) dated February 2, 2018, (c) in the original face amount of \$3,825,000 (the “February 2 Note”).

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2:** Admit that on or about February 2, 2018, the Debtor paid \$3,825,000 to James Dondero (or for his benefit) in exchange for the February 2 Note (the “February 2 Consideration”).

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 3:** Admit that on or about February 2, 2018, the Debtor transferred \$3,825,000 to an account for James Dondero’s benefit.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4:** Admit that neither James Dondero nor any entity he owns and/or controls paid any federal or state income taxes on account of the February 2 Consideration.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5:** Admit that attached as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy of a Promissory Note (a) executed by James Dondero, as maker, in favor of the Debtor, as payee, (b) dated August 1, 2018, (c) in the original face amount of \$2,500,000 (the “August 1 Note”).

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6:** Admit that on or about August 1, 2018, the Debtor paid \$2,500,000 to James Dondero (or for his benefit) in exchange for the August 1 Note (the “August 1 Consideration”).

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7:** Admit that on or about August 1, 2018, the Debtor transferred \$2,500,000 to an account for James Dondero's benefit.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8:** Admit that neither James Dondero nor any entity he owns and/or controls paid any federal state income taxes on account of the August 1 Consideration.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 9:** Admit that attached as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of a Promissory Note (a) executed by James Dondero, as maker, in favor of the Debtor, as payee, (b) dated August 13, 2018, (c) in the original face amount of \$2,500,000 (the "August 13 Note").

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 10:** Admit that on or about August 13, 2018, the Debtor paid \$2,500,000 to James Dondero (or for his benefit) in exchange for the August 13 Note (the "August 13 Consideration").

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 11:** Admit that on or about August 13, 2018, the Debtor transferred \$2,500,000 to an account for James Dondero's benefit.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 12:** Admit that neither James Dondero nor any entity he owns and/or controls paid any federal or state income taxes on account of the August 13 Consideration.

**RESPONSE:**

ADMIT.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 13:** Admit that attached as Exhibit D is the Debtor's December 3, 2020 demand letter (the "Demand Letter") to James Dondero demanding payment of the accrued interest and principal due and payable on the Promissory Notes in the aggregate amount of \$9,004,013.07 (the "Outstanding Amount").

**RESPONSE:**

Admit only that the letter attached as Exhibit D is a letter sent from the Debtor to Dondero making demand on the notes. The remainder of the request is denied.

**REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 14:** Admit that, as of January 22, 2021, James Dondero has not paid the Debtor the Outstanding Amount.

**RESPONSE:**

Admit only that Dondero has not paid the Debtor the amount the Debtor asserts is due on the notes in the amount of \$9,004,013.07. The remainder of the request is denied.